"These scores prove what we already know, that Mississippi is able to compete with any one. By putting our schools first, we are creating better jobs and building better communities. We congratulate the students, the teachers, and the Department of Education on this tremendous achievement."

(what we sent to MDE)

Here's another version:

"For the second year in a row we've seen an improvement in our students' Mississippi Curriculum Test scores. This proves what we already know, that Mississippi's children can compete with the best. By making education our top priority, we are creating better jobs and building stronger communities."